

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

December 9, 2016

The Honorable Sally Yates
Deputy Attorney General
United States Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

The Honorable Thomas Kane
Acting Director
United States Federal Bureau of Prisons
320 First Street, NW
Washington, DC 20530

RE: Federal Bureau of Prisons CAR 16 Solicitation No. RFP-PCC-0023

Dear Deputy Attorney General Yates and Acting Director Kane:

We write to request that the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) place an immediate hold on Criminal Alien Requirement 16 Solicitation No. RFP-PCC-0023 (CAR 16). This is an important solicitation to help ensure that BOP has the necessary capacity to provide safe, secure, humane, and cost-effective housing to BOP's criminal alien inmates, and we do not believe it is appropriate to rush through a solicitation in the final days of the Obama Administration.

CAR 16 has been pending since early 2015. Originally, it sought a capacity of 10,800 beds based on BOP's fact-based assessment of its needs. After the U.S. Deputy Attorney General's August 18, 2016 directive to BOP to begin phasing out the use of public-private partnerships, BOP reduced the requested capacity to 3,600 beds. However, the national election this November and the recent surge in illegal immigration across our southern border has placed a renewed focus on BOP's need to provide for the housing of undocumented and criminal aliens.

Given the upcoming change in administrations, we believe it would be premature for the current Administration to move forward with CAR 16. We believe the next administration should have the opportunity to review BOP's needs and develop its own policy position.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue. We look forward to hearing back promptly that BOP will delay making a CAR 16 award until the new administration can thoroughly review it.

Sincerely,



JOHN CORNYN
United States Senator



TED CRUZ
United States Senator



ORRIN G. HATCH
United States Senator



MICHAEL T. MCCAUL
Member of Congress



BILL FLORES
Member of Congress